

## REMARKS

The Official Action dated February 9, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in response thereto. The present application currently contains claims 1-9, 13-15, 17 and 18. Claims 1-9, 13-15, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,061,689 issued to Chang et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,966,135 issued to Roy et al.

Referring to claim 1, Chang et al. was cited as disclosing a method of gathering data from a database, comprising:

storing within a database table, objects containing image data, said database table comprising at least one row including objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table; and

receiving, in a server system, objects extracted from at least one row of said database table in response to a first request received from a client system.

Roy et al was cited as disclosing:

objects corresponding to one or more layers;

in the server system, combining the objects and creating a file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system;

displaying said representation of the image data in the client system;

generating a second request for at least one additional layer of image data in response to a selection at said client system of an element of the displayed representation of the image data in the client system;

receiving, in said server system, additional objects extracted from at least one additional row of said database table in response to said second request received from said client system, the objects corresponding to said at least one additional layer of image data;

in the server system, combining the additional objects and creating a file containing an updated representation of the image data for communication to the client system; and

displaying said updated representation of the image data in the client system.

Referring to claim 13, Chang et al was cited as disclosing a system comprising:

a database including a database table, said database table comprising at least one row including objects containing geospatial data, said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table;

an interface to said database system; and

an interface to a client system.

Roy et al was cited as disclosing a controller adapted to receive a first request from the client system, receive objects containing geospatial data extracted from the database system in response to the first request, and combine the objects into a file that provides a visual representation of the image data;

means for displaying said visual representation of the image data in the client system; and

said controller further adapted to receive a second request from the client system generated in response to a selection at said client system of an element of the displayed representation of the image data in the client system, receive additional objects containing geospatial data extracted from the database system in response to the second request, and combine the additional objects into a file that provides an updated visual representation of the image data.

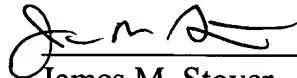
The foregoing amendment presents changes to claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 13, 17 and 18. Independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended to distinguish Applicant's invention from the cited prior art. More specifically, the language of claims 1 and 13 has been amended to clearly indicate that (1) in the server system and in response to a first request from the client, objects are extracted from at least one row of said database table, and the objects are combined to create a first file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system, and (2) in the server system and in response to a second request from the client, additional objects are extracted from the database table, and the additional objects are combined to create a second file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system. Changes have been made to the language of claims 3, 4, 9, 17 and 18 be consistent with amended claims 1 and 13. The rejections of the claims remaining in the present application under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are believed to be overcome by the foregoing amendments to the claims.

The present Official Action acknowledges that Chang et al. does not disclose combining objects extracted from a database and combining the objects to create a file containing a representation of the image data for communication to a client system. Although Roy et al. discloses a map author which is used to create, modify and electronically publish map windows files (.mwf files), it is not seen that objects are extracted from the database and combined to create a first file containing a representation of the image data in a server system in response to a first request from the client system, and thereafter additional objects are extracted from the database and combined to create a second file containing a representation of the image data in the server system in response to a second request from the client system.

It is believed that inventions recited in claims 1 and 13, as amended, are not taught by the cited references. Accordingly, claims 1 and 13, as well as claims 2 through 9 which depend from claim 1, and claims 14, 15, 17 and 18 which depend from claim 13 are believed to be patentable over the cited references to Chang et al. and Roy et al., taken singularly or in combination.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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